Whereas, the Missouri Army National Guard, Company C, 1140th Engineer Combat Battalion headquartered in Sikeston, Missouri, is commanded by Captain Scot Ratcliff and First Sergeant Dan Armour with soldiers from the Missouri counties of Mississippi, New Madrid, Scott, Stoddard, Pemiscott, Cape Girardeau, Dunklin, and various others; and

Whereas, Company C of the 1140th Engineer Combat Battalion was deployed for Operation Iraqi Freedom II on January 3, 2004; they traveled to their mobilization station at Ft. Riley, Kansas on January 6, 2004; went to Kuwait on February 21, 2004; and reached their final destination in Iraq on February 26, 2004; and

Whereas, stationed at Tallil Air Base in South Central Iraq, the men and women of Company C of the 1140th Engineer Combat Battalion are expected to head home on February 24, 2005; and

Whereas, the missions of Company C of the 1140th Engineer Combat Battalion has been to ensure the trafficability of over 186 KM of the theater's Main Supply Route (MSR) through sweeping and clearing operations, vigorous patrolling, route maintenance, and recovery operations; and

Whereas, Company C of the 1140th Engineer Combat Battalion has also worked jointly with local national Iraqi Contractors for MSR improvement operations, which have consisted of security, road preparation, asphalt plant security, and operations, in addition to assistance with the paving of over 22 KM of the MSR; and

Whereas, Company C of the 1140th Engineer Combat Battalion has conducted missions that have involved support of local policing and security efforts by training, equipping, and joint patrolling with local Iraqi Highway Patrol in the Dhi Qar Province, as well as providing force protection and life support improvements to their headquarters; and

Whereas, secondary missions for Company C of the 1140th Engineer Combat Battalion have included General Engineer Support to Tallil Air Base, constructing living areas and motor pools to improve living conditions on Tallil Air Base, and several humanitarian assistance missions to win the hearts and minds of the Iraqi people; and

Whereas, in a time of uncertainty, it is comforting to know that there are dedicated individuals such as the members of Company C of the 1140th Engineer Combat Battalion who will defend the rights and freedoms of all Americans through their selfless acts of courage and their firm belief in liberty and justice for all:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-third General Assembly, join unanimously to salute the men and women making up the Missouri National Guard who have been serving in Iraq and to convey to them this legislative body's most solemn commendation of their sacrifices made in the name of democracy and freedom; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for the officers and soldiers of Company C, 1140th Engineer Combat Battalion, headquartered in Sikeston, Missouri.

Offered by	<i></i>
•	Representative Peter C. Myers, Sr.

District No. 160

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-third General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 145, adopted January 18, 2005.

Rod Jetton, Speaker